

Message Text

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13

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCI-06 USIA-12 NASA-04 COME-00 EB-11

PA-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

DODE-00 MC-02 /063 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ INS: DKUX: NM

4/6/73, EXT 21289

APPROVED BY NEA: AHMEYER

NEA/ INS: DTSCHNEIDER

SCI: BASTEDO

USIS: KOBEE

NASA: BARNES (INFO)

COMMERCE: CLEMENT (INFO)

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R 070122 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: BEXP, TSPA, IN

SUBJ: SPACE - VISIT BY WERNHER VON BRAUN OF FAIRCHILD
INDUSTRIES

1. DR. WERNHER VON BRAUN AND OTHER FAIRCHILD AVIATION
REPS CALLED APRIL 6 ON AMBASSADOR MEYER AND INS AND SCI
OFFICERS. VON BRAUN EXPLAINED HE AND IRVING SINGER OF
FAIRCHILD INDUSTRIES PLANNING VISIT INDIA APRIL 29 -
MAY 3. PURPOSE WAS TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE SALES OF COMMUNI-
CATIONS SATELLITES AND LAUNCH FACILITIES AS FOLLOW- ON TO
ATS EDUCATIONAL EXPERIMENT WHICH NASA AND GOI CONDUCTING.
FAIRCHILD IS PRIME CONTRACTOR FOR ATS AND INTERESTED IN
COMPETING FOR EXPANDED PROGRAM TO COVER ALL 500,000
VILLAGES WHICH INDIANS HAVE IN MIND. EXPLAINED THAT SALES
POTENTIAL FOR PACKAGE ROUGHLY DOLLARS 1 0 MILLION.

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2. TENTATIVE ITINERARY CALLS FOR APRIL 29 - MAY 1 IN DELHI, MAY 1-2 AHMEDABAD, MAY 2-3 BANGALORE. IN DELHI CONSIDERING CALLS ON MINSTATE FOR SPACE K. C. PANT, I. K. GUJRAL, MINSTATE FOR INFO AND BROADCASTING (POSSIBLY ALSO S. K. MUKERJI, HEAD OF ALL- INDIA RADIO), SCIENCE ADVISER TO PM PARTHASARATHY, SCIENCE ADVISER TO MOD DR. NAG CHAUDHURI, PLANNING MINISTER D. P. DHAR AND MINSTATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS BAHAGUNA (POSSIBLY ALSO SHENOI AND SIRANGAHAN OF TELECOMMUNICATION RESEARCH). IF POSSIBLE WOULD LIKE TO PAY CALL ON AMBASSADOR AFTERNOON APRIL 29 OR ELSE START OFF AM OF APRIL 30 WITH CALL ON HIM AND COMMERCIAL AND SCIENCE ATTACHES. IN AHMEDABAD, THINKING OF CALLS ON PROFESSOR YASH PAL, DIRECTOR OF SPACE APPLICATIONS CENTER AND PROMAD KALE WHO INVOLVED WITH ATS/ F FOLLOW- ON SYSTEM. IN BANGALORE WOULD HOPE TO SEE PROFESSOR S. DHAWAN, SPACE SECRETARY AND CHAIRMAN OF ISRO, AS WELL AS DR. U. R. RAO. NAMES FOR CALLS RECOMMENDED BY INDIA SUPPLY MISSION.

3. WE SAID WE CERTAIN EMBASSY WOULD BE HAPPY HELP WITH APPOINTMENTS ETC. IN LINE WITH OUR EXPORT PROMOTION EFFORTS. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY FROM AMBASSADOR MEYER, VON BRAUN SAID HE WOULD BE WILLING TO GIVE TALK ON SPACE TOPICS IF THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL TO USG.

4. PLEASE ADVISE REGARDING POSSIBLE SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT FOR VON BRAUN WHICH WE ASSUME WOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST. IF EMBASSY HAS SUGGESTIONS RE PROPOSED APPOINTMENTS, FAIRCHILD WOULD APPRECIATE THESE AS WELL AS ADVICE RE APPOINTMENT WITH AMBASSADOR.

5. SINCE WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH FAIRCHILD NEXT WEEK, WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY RESPONSE BY APRIL 11. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE064813
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DKUX: NM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730436/aaaahvey.tel
Line Count: 101
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <08-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971205
Subject: SPACE - VISIT BY WERNHER VON BRAUN OF FAIRCHILD INDUSTRIES
TAGS: BEXP, TSPA, IN
To: NEW DELHI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005